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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF [redacted]

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3. //CHILE: THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN CHILE HAS CHOSEN TO AVOID A POSSIBLE DIPLOMATIC INCIDENT WITH THE US AT THIS TIME BY ALLOWING THREE AMERICAN NUNS TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AFTER THEY HAD SECRETLY AIDED WOUNDED TERRORISTS. [redacted] 1.5c

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//THE GOVERNMENT ALSO HAS REPORTEDLY AGREED TO GRANT SAFE CONDUCT TO AN AMERICAN PRIEST SIMILARLY INVOLVED.//

//THE TERRORISTS, INCLUDING THE TWO TOP LEADERS OF THE MOVEMENT OFTHE REVOLUTIONARY LEFT, HAVE SOUGHT ASYLUM IN TWO EMBASSIES.//

//THE CHANCES FOR ADDITIONAL DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS ARE HIGH, SINCE A BRITISH MISSIONARY DOCTOR AND A US-BORN CHILEAN PRIEST ARE IN CUSTODY IN CHILE FOR AIDING THE TERRORISTS; OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CLERGY ARE BEING SOUGHT BY SECURITY FORCES.

//CHILE'S ATTITUDE ON THE AMERICAN NUNS PROBABLY WAS DESIGNED IN PART TO ENCOURAGE A US ABSTENTION ON A UN RESOLUTION CONDEMNING CHILE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES.//4

//PINOCHET CLEARLY WOULD LIKE TO AVOID FORCING AN OPEN SPLIT WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. CONTINUED CHILEAN OR FOREIGN CLERICAL INVOLVEMENT WITH TERRORISTS, EVEN ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS, MAY WELL PROVOKE A STERNER GOVERNMENT RESPONSE IN THE FUTURE.

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1.5c